Northern Seminary

MN 382 Principles and Practices of Preaching
Dr. Harry Parker
Fall 2015
Mondays, 7:00 – 9:40 p.m.

Office Hours and Phone
Office Hours: By appointment
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Course Overview
This course is designed to provide a basic introduction of preaching. It will be based on Michael Quicke’s text, 360 Degrees of Preaching. Students will explore the preacher as person, engaging the text, interpreting the text, designing a sermon, imagistic language, eventful gestures and “making space for grace” in preaching. Students will also have four lab opportunities to experiment with leading a sermon collaboration team, reading scripture, storytelling and preaching.

Objectives
In this course the student will do the following:
1. Gain an understanding of the importance of the preacher’s ethos
2. Learn techniques of engaging the text
3. Develop skills in leading a Sermon Collaboration Team
4. Learn the process of sermon preparation using the “Preaching Swim”
5. Develop an understanding of traditional expository preaching
6. Develop skills in delivery
7. Develop skills in the public reading of scripture
8. Develop skills in preaching

Educational Methodology
The class will include lectures, discussion, videos, and labs.

Required Reading


Choose one of the following:


OR


**Course Requirements**

1. Attendance is mandatory. The content and group process are too important to miss any session.
2. Completion of required reading and submission of book reflection papers. Paper guidelines will be given in class.
3. Lead one Sermon Collaboration Team
4. Read one passage of scripture in a lab setting
5. Tell one story in a lab setting
6. View four sermons of four different preachers and write four one-page critiques. Preachers can be live, television, video or on-line. Guidelines will be given in class.
7. Preach one sermon in a lab setting
8. Write one five page reflection paper on your experience leading the Sermon Collaboration Team

**Tentative Course Schedule**

September 28
The Person of the Preacher
Lab: Engaging the Text

October 5
Introducing “The Preaching Swim”
Lab: Scripture Reading
Lab: Sermon Collaboration Team

October 12
The Preaching Swim: Interpreting the Text/ Finding Something to Say
Lab: Sermon Collaboration Team

*LaRue Reflection Paper Due*

October 19
The Preaching Swim: Designing the Sermon
Traditional Expository Sermons, Concrete Language and Effective Gestures
Lab: Sermon Collaboration Team

October 24
“A New Kind of Preacher” Conference

October 26
No Class

November 2
Illustrations, Introductions and Conclusions
Video: Fred Craddock
Lab: Sermon Collaboration Team
**Quicke Reflection Paper Due**

November 9
Making Space for Grace
Video: Tim Keller
Lab: Storytelling

November 16
Lab: Preaching
**Lamott or Matthews Reflection Paper Due**

November 23
No Class – Thanksgiving Week

November 30
Lab: Preaching
**Galli Reflection Paper Due**

December 7
Lab: Preaching
**Four Preacher Critiques Due**
**Sermon Collaboration Team Reflection Paper Due**

**Grading**

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<tr>
<th>Component</th>
<th>Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Book Reflection Papers</td>
<td>40 Points (10 points each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scripture Reading</td>
<td>2.5 Points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Storytelling</td>
<td>2.5 Points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Preacher Critiques</td>
<td>10 Points (2.5 points each)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sermon</td>
<td>30 Points</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sermon Collaboration Paper</td>
<td>15 Points</td>
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Grading Scale

<table>
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<tr>
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<td>59 and below</td>
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POLICIES FOR ALL MASTERS CLASSES

NOTE: All communications from the seminary will go to your seminary email account. Contact ithelpdesk@seminary.edu if you need help forwarding your seminary email address to your personal email address.

As a seminary community we hold integrity/hospitality as core values. Individuals are able to do their best work and thinking when their peers are fully present and engaged. We expect each person to both participate in class and carefully listen to others with the belief that everyone’s contribution is equally important. Therefore, the following policies have been established in order to provide clarity in regard to attendance expectations and relationships in the classroom.

Diploma/Certificate Student Course Requirements
The amount of work required of Diploma/Certificate students will be at the discretion of the professor. Students will be responsible for contacting the professor about what assignments are required.

Class Attendance Policy
It is expected that students will attend and participate in all class sessions. Failure to attend at least 80% of class sessions is grounds for automatic failure. A professor may set other attendance expectations. Students are always expected to communicate with a professor in advance if they will be absent. Attendance expectations are higher for online and intensive courses (see syllabus for specific requirements).

Class Tardiness Policy
The third time a student is late to the start of class, it will be counted as a class absence. It is also expected that students will return from a break by the time specified by the professor.

Late Work Policy
If a student cannot complete the work for a course by the due date listed on the syllabus, they must submit a “Request for a Grade of Incomplete” form to the Registrar by 4:30 of the last day of the term. The form must be signed by the instructor and Dean of Students. The professor may set stipulations and grade reductions. In the absence of a formal request form, the student will receive a grade based upon work completed by the last day of the term.
**Turabian Format**
All papers, including footnotes and bibliography, must be submitted in the correct format according to Kate L. Turabian, *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*, 8th ed., 2013.

**Plagiarism**
Plagiarism is the act of passing off as one’s own the words or ideas of someone else without providing proper acknowledgement or documentation. See the “Academic Honesty Policy” in the Seminary Catalog for more information on plagiarism and how to avoid it.

**Electronic Format**
Unless otherwise specified by the professor, all work submitted electronically must be in a Word document format (.doc, .docx).

**Technology Use in the Classroom**
Unless it is directly tied to note-taking or research for the class, students are expected to refrain from using cell phones, laptops, or other electronic devices during class.

**Course Evaluation in Moodle**
Students must complete an online course evaluation using the seminary Moodle system at [http://moodle.seminary.edu](http://moodle.seminary.edu). The evaluation will be open at the end of the course. If you need assistance connecting to Moodle or accessing the evaluation, please send an email to moodlehelp@seminary.edu.